

Minutes of the Economic Development Commission held at 8:15 A.M., on Thursday, February 25, 2010.

Members Present: First Selectman Freda, Thomas Dunham, William Gambardella, Walter Mann, Radha Prasad, Richard LoPresti

Members Absent: Frank Maher, LuAnn Buono, Deborah Moore

MINUTES

After a brief discussion of the Minutes of the Meeting held on January 29, 2010, Mr. Freda moved their acceptance, seconded by Mr. Mann.

VOTE: All in favor.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW COMMISSION MEMBER RICHARD LOPRESTI

Mr. Freda welcomed new commission member Richard LoPresti to the commission. Mr. LoPresti brings 29 years of experience working with the State of Connecticut in various positions relating to economic development.

Mr. Freda said that we have one more opening on the Commission and it will be filled by our next meeting.

COMMISSION MEMBER UPDATE TO M. FREDA

Mr. Mann contacted Robert Mesite owner of the former Yankee Silversmith restaurant in Wallingford who is the exclusive Connecticut franchise for Sonic Restaurants. Mr. Mann offered to show him various available sites in North Haven and introduce him to Mr. Freda. Mr. Mesite said that he would like to meet with town officials.

Mr. Mann also spoke with Richard Steinberg who owns 117 acres on Valley Service Road. Mr. Mann said that he just wanted to keep Mr. Steinberg in the loop and introduce him to Mr. Freda.

M. FREDA OVERVIEW

Mr. Freda said that there are currently two offers being considered for the Rabina property. The first proposal would encompass all the acreage. They are in the third stage of negotiations with Rabina. The potential buyer may purchase the property outright or will work with Mickey Rabina on a joint venture project.

The second offer is from a developer who wants to buy the land and create a mixed use development. They currently are in negotiations with Rabina.

Mr. Freda said that he is optimistic that one of these offers will materialize.

Mr. Freda said that he is working with landlords on northern Washington Avenue. In the Montowese section of Town, Mr. Freda is working with Empire Paving on McDermott Road to

secure a TIF. He has also met with Henry Criscuolo about the gas station on the corner of Quinipiac and Middletown Avenue. He said he would like to see it removed but we don't know what remediation costs are involved.

Mr. Freda met with Mark Papa to discuss the Montowese Enhancement project.

Mr. Freda met with the Post Office and showed them 9 locations on Washington Avenue and State Street. Both Mr. Freda and post office officials liked the property owned by John Parese. Mr. Freda is setting up a meeting with Mr. Parese and the post office.

Mr. Freda is working with the Soccer Club to try to find them a destination for more fields. Mr. Gambardella suggested that we talk to St. Barnabas about leasing a parcel of land located in the back of the church. Mr. LoPresti said that he would speak to Father Hugh about the property.

Mr. Freda, the Police Chief and the Fire Chief will be meeting with the executive staff of Covidien. Covidien may have expansion opportunities and Mr. Freda said we have to focus on internal growth in existing businesses.

Further discussion followed.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BREAKFAST – SUGGESTED TIMEFRAME

Mr. Freda and commission members agreed to schedule the breakfast in May. Mr. LoPresti said that he will make contact with the State for speakers and report back to the Commission next month.

The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for March 25, 2010, at 8:15 a.m.

There being no further business before the Commission Mr. Freda moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 AM, seconded by Mr. Prasad.